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URBAN DISTRICT OF SEDGLEY

Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
and Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1938.



DUDLEY AND SEDGLEY
E. BLOCKSIDE (DUDLEY) LTD.
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Chairman of Health Committee.

Councillor C. A. PRATT, J.P., C.C.

Medical Officer of Health.

F. B. MACKENZIE, D.S.O., M.C., M.A., M.B.Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector.

G. H. CHAMPION, M.S.I.A.

Cleansing Superintendent.

W. A. PEARSON.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1938.

Area, 3,854 acres.

Population, 20,350 (Mid. 1938) ; 19,262 (Census, 1931).

Number of Inhabited houses : 1931, 4168 ; 1938, 5,473.

Sum represented by a penny rate ; £276.

Rateable Value, £76,679.

General Rate, 13/6 in the £.

Birth Rate, 15.8.

Death Rate, 10.9.

Infantile Death Rate, per 1,000 Births ; 53.0.

Total Deaths from Diarrhæa, 2 ; Rate per 1,000 Births, 6.2.

Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 7. ; From other Tuberculous Diseases, 4.

Tuberculosis Death Rate : Pulmonary, 0.34 ; Non-Pulmonary, 0.20.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF SEDGLEY.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Sedgley Urban
District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1938, and do so in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health as indicated in Circular No. 1728.

The Registrar-General estimates the population of Sedgley at 20,350. He credits us with 321 Births and 221 Deaths which make the Birth Rate 15.8 and the Death Rate 10.9. (Corrected Death Rate 11.6) The Birth Rate for England and Wales is 15.1 and the Death Rate 11.6. Last year our Birth Rate was 14.4 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population and the Death Rate 11.0 (Corrected Death Rate 11.8).

The Infantile Mortality for the District is 53 per 1,000 live births which is the same figure for England and Wales.

The Maternal Mortality Rate is 6.12 as against 3.08 per per 1,000 total Births for England and Wales.

There have been no causes of serious invalidity in the area. As regards Infectious Diseases there has been a marked decrease of such cases throughout the year, as far as school notifications have disclosed:—

Such notifications of course do not disclose what was the incidence of Chicken Pox, Measles, Mumps and Whooping Cough amongst the younger children not of school attending age, as notification in respect of those diseases is not compulsory. Nevertheless, the district has been comparatively free from epidemic disease this year.

As regards hospitalisation of such cases of infectious disease as may be necessary in the interests of the patient, Sedgley is in the unfortunate position of being dependent on other authorities.

Wolverhampton Borough Hospital accepts the majority and when admission there is not possible, Brierley Hill or Bilston responds to my request.

Though I have never had occasion to apply further afield it has often been difficult to arrange an admission locally and had there been an epidemic of grave infectious disease with a heavy demand for admission to hospital the situation would have been rather embarrassing for me. However, I am happy to report that the establishment of a Joint Hospital for the South of the County has now been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health, to which all cases of notifiable infectious disease, excluding Smallpox, will be sent. Severe cases of Measles, Pneumonia and Whooping Cough will also be admitted on request.

Progress in slum clearance has been well maintained and during the year 47 houses were placed under Demolition Orders. The five years programme for the demolition of unfit houses has now been completed and has resulted in a decided increase in the standard of working class dwellings. The Council have now built 260 houses for slum clearance and rehoused 1124 persons.

Considerable progress has also been made in the abatement of overcrowding during the course of the year, 75 cases having been dealt with by allocating existing Council houses as they became vacant.

70 houses consisting of 18 four bedroom type and 52 three bedroom type are now in course of erection at North Springfield, Sedgley, for overcrowded cases. These houses will be used to rehouse families of not more than $8\frac{1}{2}$ units but the more acute cases cannot be dealt with until a larger type of house is provided. A large four bedroom type house with two living rooms would deal with the majority of these cases.

But the adequacy of this number of houses, viz. 70, for the purpose of abating overcrowding in the district postulates the fullest utilisation of already existing Council houses as they become vacant or the transplanting of small families occupying large type Council houses which they do not occupy to reasonable capacity, to the smaller type Council houses which are over-

crowded so that the overcrowded families therein can be accommodated in the vacated larger types, if the building programme is to be kept within reasonable limits.

Failure to do this must inevitably mean the securing of more ground and the building of more houses ; and it is conceivable that the plan indicated above of transplanting families will not always be possible as some of the small families living in large Council houses may be averse to moving and on the other hand the families overcrowding the small type may not be in a position to pay the rents of the already existing large types. Again as there are many applicants in the district apart from overcrowded families, for the larger type of house and who are quite willing to pay the rent, it might be more advantageous to make use of the £5. 10s. 0d. per house subsidy and build more houses if that would bring the rent more within the means of the less affluent but overcrowded family.

In the succeeding pages of my Report will be found, under their appropriate sections, information bearing on :—

- (a) Vital Statistics as affecting the Area ;
- (b) General Provision of Health Services in the Area ;
- (c) Sanitary Circumstances of the Area ;
- (d) Housing ;
- (e) Inspection and Supervision of Food ;
- (f) Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Again I wish to express my appreciation of the help and support given me by the Chairmen and Members of the Health and Housing Committees.

The co-operation of the private practitioners is also much appreciated and the willing and helpful assistance given me by brother officers of the Council, is gratefully acknowledged.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. B. MACKENZIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1939.

SECTION A.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total.	M.	F.	Birth Rate
Live Births	{ Legitimate	312	158	154	15.8
	{ Illegitimate	9	6	3	

Still Births, Total—6. Rate per 1,000 total births—18.7

		Total.	M.	F.	Rate
Deaths	... ..	221	110	111	10.9

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :—
From Sepsis, 1. Other causes, 1.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births, 53.0.

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, 54.5

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births, 0.00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 19.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 0.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 0.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), 2.

TABLE I.
BIRTH RATES.

Year.	SEDGLEY.		England and Wales, Birth Rate.
	No. of Births.	Birth Rate.	
1933	251	12.9	14.4
1934	281	14.4	14.8
1935	358	17.9	14.7
1936	288	14.4	14.8
1937	292	14.4	14.9
1938	321	15.8	15.1

TABLE II.
DEATH RATES.

Year.	SEDGLEY.		England and Wales. Death Rate.
	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.	
1933	207	10.6	12.3
1934	193	9.9	11.8
1935	217	10.9	11.7
1936	220	11.0	12.1
1937	222	11.0	12.4
1938	221	10.9	11.6

TABLE III.

SEDGLEY URBAN DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1937.

CAUSES OF DEATH :—

							M	F
	All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	110	111
1	Typhoid fever, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
6	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
7	Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
8	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9	Respiratory tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
10	Other tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
11	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
12	General paralysis of insane, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
13	Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	6	13
14	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	10	14
16	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	28	24
17	Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
18	Other Circulatory	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
19	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
20	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	12	5
21	Other respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
22	Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
23	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
24	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
26	Other liver diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
27	Other digestive	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
28	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
30	Other puerperal	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
31	Congenital causes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	6	7
32	Senility	...	...	...	...	...	9	14
33	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
34	Other violence	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
35	Other defined causes	...	...	...	...	...	8	5
36	Ill-defined causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35) :—								
	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—

TABLE III.—(*Continued*).

Deaths of Infants under one year :					Total	...	...	8	9
					Legitimate	...	...	8	9
					Illegitimate	...	...	—	—
Live Births :	Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	164	157
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	158	154
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
Stillbirths :	Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Resident population					...	...	...	20,350	

The highest number of deaths were attributable to the following causes —

						1938	1937
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	52	41
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	24	27
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	17	15
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	19	20
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	23	20
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	7	7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	7	6
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	7	14

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1938.

Nett Deaths from causes stated at various ages under one year of age :—

Causes of Death.	Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under One Month	1—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	6—9 Months.	9—12 Months.	Total Death under One Year
All causes	11	1	....	....	12	1	....	4	....	17
Smallpox ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Chicken-pox ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Measles ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Scarlet Fever ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Whooping Cough ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Diphtheria and Croup ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Erysipelas ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Tuberculosis Meningitis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Tuberculosis Peritonitis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Other Tuberculous Disease ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Meningitis (not tubercular) ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Convulsions ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Laryngitis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Bronchitis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Pneumonia (all forms) ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	....	2
Diarrhoea ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Enteritis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	....	2
Gastritis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Syphilis ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Rickets ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Suffocation ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Injury at Birth	1	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	....	1
Atelectasis	2	....	....	....	2	....	....	....	....	2
Congenital Malformation	2	1	....	....	3	....	....	....	....	3
Premature Birth	5	....	....	....	5	....	....	....	....	5
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	1	....	....	....	1	1	....	....	....	2
Influenza ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Icterus Neonatorum ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Other causes ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Totals	11	1	....	....	12	1	....	4	....	17

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.

Year.	SEDGLEY.			England and Wales. Rate per 1000 births.
	Births.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 births.	
1933	251	13	51.8	64
1934	281	13	46.2	59
1935	358	23	64.2	57
1936	288	21	72.9	59
1937	292	15	51.4	58
1938	321	17	53.0	53

There were two deaths from Diarrhœa among children under two years of age.

TABLE IV.

Birth rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938.

England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin- istrative County	Sedgley
Rates per 1000 Population					
Births :—					
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4	15.8
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48	0.29
Deaths :—					
All causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4	10.9
Typhoid & Para- typhoid fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—	—
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.05
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.34
Notifications :—					
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05	0.54
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90	0.59
Enteric Fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05	—
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46	0.93
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98	1.42
Rates per 1000 Live births					
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	57	51	57	53.
Deaths from Diarr- hoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1	6.2
Maternal Mortality :					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	Not available			3.1
Others	2.19				3.1
Total	3.08				6.2
Rates per 1000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)					
Maternal Mortality :					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	Not available			3.06
Others	2.11				3.06
Total	2.97				6.12
Notifications :					
Puerperal Fever	14.42	18.08	12.51	3.53	18.35
Puerperal Pyrexia				15.46	

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

The Medical Officer of Health is one of the County Assistant Medical Officers of Health, who is posted for part-time duty with your local Urban District Council.

The Sanitary Inspector is a full time officer, Certified Royal Sanitary Institute as a Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector. In addition there is a Cleansing Superintendent who also acts as clerk to the Medical Officer.

The Health Visitors, three in number, are under the direction of the County Authority, and are paid by them.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Local Authority makes no provision for the home nursing of either Infectious or General Disease. Lower Gornal and Sedgley have made arrangements for the services of a Queen's Institute Nurse. Mild Infectious cases are nursed by their own families under the direction of their medical attendant.

MIDWIVES.

There are four certified Midwives practising in the area and they work under the supervision of the County Authority.

LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and Bacteriological specimens are sent to the County Bacteriological Laboratory, Stafford. Diphtheria swabs, sputum, urine, fæces and any other specimens having a public health interest are examined free. The facilities so provided are in constant use by the local practitioners. Throat Swab Tests for Diphtheria Bacilli—61; Positive 6, Negative 55. Sputum Tests for Tubercle Bacilli—46; Positive 9, Negative, 37.

HOSPITALS.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council :—

A. (1) Fever, none. The Local Authority pays for the treatment of special fever and diphtheria cases at the Borough Fever Hospital, Wolverhampton.

(2) Smallpox.—The Local Authority has a share in the Conjoint Smallpox Hospital, situate at Moxley, near Bilston.

B. Tuberculosis.—The Dispensaries, Parsons Street, Dudley and Bell Street, Wolverhampton.

Under the scheme of the National Health Insurance Act suitable cases are sent to various Sanatoria. There is a special Sanatorium for the treatment of children at Himley, near Dudley.

C. Maternity.—None. The County Council provides nursing assistance and pays for medical attention if required. Difficult cases requiring hospital treatment may be sent to the Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton.

D. Children.—None. Children requiring special treatment are treated in the Hospitals of Dudley, Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

E. Orthopædic.—The Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, the Guest Hospital, Dudley and the Orthopædic Hospital, Birmingham, treat any cases sent.

F. Other.—None, but the following hospitals situate outside the Urban District are available.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—The Royal Hospital (Medical and Surgical cases). The Women's Hospital. Ear, Nose and Throat Department of Royal Hospital. Diseases of Skin Department of Royal Hospital. Wolverhampton and Midland Counties Eye Infirmary.

DUDLEY.—The Guest Hospital (Medical and Surgical cases). Ear, Nose and Throat and Eye Departments.

BIRMINGHAM.—The General Hospitals of this city and their specialised departments are also available.

Orthopædic treatment and Electrical and Light-therapy are also provided for at all the above-mentioned hospitals.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

The County is the supervising authority. There are no Nursing Homes in the area. The only Maternity Home is the Rosemary Ednam Home, which is under the control of the Public Assistance Authority, and where patients are treated at a reasonable fee. Provision is also made for the admission of unmarried mothers to this institution when necessary.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The County Authority makes enquiries into causes of maternal deaths and also in cases of Puerperal Pyrexia.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION.

Homeless children are cared for by the Public Assistance Authority.

The care of mental defectives is undertaken by the Public Assistance Authority, and such cases are treated at the Burton House Public Assistance Institution, Sedgley.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious Cases.—An ambulance is provided by the Conjoint Board for the removal of Smallpox cases. By arrangement with the Wolverhampton Authority the Borough Fever Ambulance is available for the removal of other infectious cases.

OPEN SPACES.

With a desire to securing for all time the amenities of Sedgley at the approach from Wolverhampton the Council have acquired 50 acres of the Beacon Slopes as an "Open Space."

This area has an extensive view of the surrounding country and by the provision of woodland planting the site will tend to become more and more attractive as growth takes place.

PLAYING FIELDS.

During the year Upper Gornal and Sedgley Tenscore Recreation Grounds have been equipped with up-to-date amusement apparatus for the children and these appear to be much appreciated.

I understand that it is hoped to carry out a considerable scheme of development on the recently acquired Playing Field at Lower Gornal, during the coming year.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

There are two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the district—one in Sedgley, and one in Lower Gornal. There is a permanent staff of three fully trained Health Visitors, and in addition the Centres are attended by a Physician, an Ophthalmic Surgeon, and a Dentist. School Clinics are held in connection with these Centres, and Dental and Ophthalmic treatment are given when required.

The services of Mr. Withers, L.D.S., one of the County Dental Surgeons are much sought after and appreciated by nursing and expectant mothers.

The County Authority uses these Centres for training purposes, district and maternity nurses being sent there for a course of instruction in maternity and child welfare work before taking up their districts.

The other Clinics available are situate outside the area.

Venereal Diseases are treated at the Royal Hospital Wolverhampton; Artificial Sunlight treatment may be obtained at the Hospitals of Dudley and Wolverhampton; Orthopædic treatment in Dudley, Wolverhampton and Birmingham. There are no day nurseries. Tuberculosis is treated at the Dispensaries in Wolverhampton and Dudley. Tonsils and Adenoid cases occurring amongst school children may be treated at Brierley Hill Tonsil and Adenoid Clinic under arrangements made by the County Education Authority.

A table giving particulars of work at the Welfare Centres is appended.

The services of the ladies who act as voluntary workers at the Centres are much appreciated and herewith gratefully acknowledged.

TABLE VII MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE

PARTICULARS RELATING TO THE WORK DURING THE YEAR OF 1938

Health Visitors :—Nurses T. LOWE, E. DUFFY and J. HOLTOM. Districts :—Sedgley, Upper & Lower Gornal.

Births.														First Visits.				Revisits.				Total Visits.				Children on Visiting List at end of Year.	
Notified.				Transfers from other Districts during the year.																							
Live Births.				Stillborn.				By Midwives.		By Parents and Doctors.		Under ten days.		Over ten days and under one year.		One year and under five.											
Full term.		Premature		Full term.		Premature		L	I	L	I	L	I	L	I	L	I										
L	I	L	I	L	I	L	I			L	I	L	I	L	I	L	I										
293	7	13	-		4	-	2	-	297	7	15	-	29	-	45	-	57	318	31	26	2099	4855	83	2417	4886	287	1024

Total L. 312. I. 7.

Deaths, Transfers and Removals of Children on Visiting List during the year.												Welfare Centre.												No. of cases of insanitary conditions reported to Medical Officer of Health.											
Under ten days.						Over ten days and under one year.						One year and under five.						Transferred to School																	
Deaths.			Removals.			Deaths.			Removals.			Deaths.			Removals.			Deaths.			Removals.			Deaths.			Removals.			Deaths.			Removals.		
L	I		L	I		L	I		L	I		L	I		L	I		L	I		L	I		L	I		L	I		L	I				
9	-		-	-		6	-		41	-		4	-		72	1		(1) 49	1	44	111	2	66	14	9	983	1180	49	1008	-					
																		(2) 48	5	92	149	18	156	77	37	1693	1129	48	1035	5					

L.—Legitimate.

I.—Illegitimate.

1) Lower Gornal Centre.

(2) Sedgley Centre.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

With the exception of the houses in the Goldthorn Hill Area, which is supplied with water from the Wolverhampton Corporation mains the whole of the district is supplied by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company.

The water for Sedgley is normally obtained from Boreholes sunk in the New Red Sandstone formation at the Company's Prestwood Pumping Station, near Kinver. From there the water is pumped through a steel main to Reservoirs at Shaver's End, Dudley. Part of Sedgley receives a supply by gravitation from these Reservoirs at Shaver's End, but as certain parts of the district are at a higher altitude than can be adequately supplied under that head the water has to be re-pumped to the elevated tanks and the reservoir at Sedgley Beacon.

It will, therefore be noted that in Sedgley there are three zones of supply :—

- (a) From Shaver's End Reservoirs ;
- (b) Sedgley Beacon Reservoir ;
- (c) Elevated Steel tanks at Sedgley Beacon ;

but in all three cases the water is normally from the same source.

No contamination of any kind has been found and the supply is satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

I am indebted to Mr. Fred. J. Dixon, M.Inst. C.E., M.Inst. Mech. E., Engineer in Chief, South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, for the following report :—

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION OF RECENT SAMPLE OF WATER

SEDGLEY RESERVOIR.

Bacteriological Examination.

BACTERIA, Colonies per ml.

BACTERIUM COLI.

Nutrient Agar at 20°C. 3 days 2	Presumptive Test	Absent
Nutrient Agar at 37°C. 1 day .5	Confirmatory Tests	Absent
Nutrient Agar at 37°C. 2 days .5		

PHYSICAL CHARACTERS.

COLOUR (Burgess)	2mm	TASTE	...	Normal
TURBIDITY	Clear	ODOUR	...	Nil

Chemical Analysis (Expressed in parts per 100,000).

pH.	...	...	... 7.2	Oxidised Nitrogen	...	23
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	...	...	... 7.8	Oxygen Absorbed (3hrs. at 27°C.)	...	.012
Chlorides (Cl)	...	...	...2.67	Temporary Hardness	...	7.2
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	Trace	Permanent Hardness	...	4.2
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	Trace	Total Hardness	...	11 4

Remarks.

The water as supplied by the Company in the area under the jurisdiction of the Sedgley Urban District Council is controlled by bacteriological examinations carried out at least once per month.

List of Extensions to Water Mains in the Parish of Sedgley During the Year 1938.

Location.	Size.	Length laid in yards.
Claremont Road	3"	70
Lower Gornal Housing Site	4"	536
High Park Estate	4"	546
Summit Place, Gornal Wood	3"	43
Beacon Housing Site	4"	509
Greenleighs off Wolverhampton Road	3"	52
Straits Green, Gornal Wood	3"	255

Drainage and Sewerage.—For this Report I am indebted to Mr. A. E. Dicks, Assoc.Mem.Inst.C.E., Surveyor.

Drainage—New Sewers, etc.

During the year 262 houses have been connected to the Sewers in the various sewerage systems, these embracing 112 built by the Council at the Housing Sites.

2,008 yards of new Sewers have been added to the Council's sewerage system. These embrace both foul and surface water sewers on the Lower Gornal and Beacon Housing Extensions. An extension was also carried out at Straits Road to serve certain houses which have been built by the Earl of Dudley's Baggeridge Colliery Ltd.

Sewage Disposal Works.

The Works at Beacon Hill continue to give excellent effluent. The other Disposal Works are still efficient, but the analyses show deterioration largely due to the growth of Housing Schemes.

A scheme for extensions to the Upper Gornal Works is now in hand will be followed by one for Gospel End as soon as possible.

Rivers and Streams.

The only streams in the district are small watercourses carrying off storm water, and draining into tributaries of the Severn and Tame.

Public Convenience.

A new Public Convenience for both sexes has been built at the junction of Jews Lane and Kent Street. This has been urgently required for some time.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The progress made during the past few years in abolishing the privy system, which up to September, 1924, was general throughout the area, has been fully maintained this year. It is estimated that the water closets now number 5,612 as compared with 5,366 in the previous year, and that privies now number 409 as compared with 432 in the previous year. The following table shows the change which has taken place in the character of the sanitary accommodation since 1924.

Year		Privies converted		Additional W.C.'s provided		Total		Ashpits Abolished
1924	...	38	...	7	...	45	...	24
1925	...	237	...	67	...	304	...	154
1926	...	204	...	65	...	269	...	138
1927	...	164	...	46	...	210	...	127
1928	...	544	...	150	...	694	...	387
1929	...	237	...	73	...	310	...	187
1930	...	211	...	57	...	268	...	163
1931	...	131	...	54	...	185	...	110
1932	...	76	...	18	...	94	...	69
1933	...	108	...	31	...	139	...	95
1934	.....	32	...	9	...	41	...	29
1935	...	27	...	9	...	36	...	36
1936	...	23	...	17	...	40	...	27
1937	.....	21	.....	10	.....	31	.....	11
1938		19	...	14	...	33	...	27
Total		2072	...	627	...	2699	...	1584

- (a)—Ashbin refuse is collected weekly. An additional S. & D. "Chelsea" Motor Freighter has been acquired as a result of which all bin refuse is removed by modern mechanical covered vehicles.
- (b)—Refuse from the existing earth closets and privy-middens is wheeled into the street and immediately loaded into carts except where the yards of premises allow of a close approach to the receptacles. This type of convenience continues to diminish and as a result, conditions are very much improved. Privy-middens are emptied at two to three monthly intervals.
- (c)—Dry house refuse is disposed of by tipping in worked-out quarries and by filling in subsidences caused by mining. The tips are kept in good condition, and are sufficiently far removed from dwellings to avoid any nuisance arising therefrom.
- (d)—Refuse from privy-middens is mainly used on farm land the rough refuse being deposited on tips and immediately covered.
- (e)—Cesspools are cleansed as required, this work being carried out in the early part of the day. The contents are removed in enclosed tanks.
- (f)—The liquid contents of cesspools are discharged into sewer manholes and deposited on farm land.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The systematic inspection of the district has been carried out in the usual way. The Sanitary Inspector has furnished me with the following table of inspections; further details will be found in his report.

Summary of Inspections.

No. of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	315
Systematic house-to-house inspections			...	...	45
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	920
Visits re overcrowding...	...	...	...	...	223
Inspection re drainage...	...	...	...	...	94
Visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	583
Visits re slaughter on private premises			...	...	17
Factories inspected	...	...	...	...	72
Dairies and cowsheds inspected		...	...	...	93
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	164

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action has been necessary under this heading.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public in the area.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Eleven houses found to be infested with bugs have been disinfested. In eight cases "Zaldicide" was used and the results have been satisfactory. By arrangement with the Dudley Corporation the furniture of three houses in a clearance area was dealt with at their depot at the time of displacement.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations.

HOUSING ACT, 1935, SECTION 18 (1).

Regulations under the above Section are not necessary to the district, as no underground rooms exist.

RAG FLOCK ACTS 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

CEMETERIES.

Three of the local Church Authorities have recently extended their burial grounds ; but nevertheless, sight should not be lost of the fact that some years ago five acres of land were acquired for the purposes of providing a public burial ground, the necessity for which will become more urgent each year as the older burial grounds fill up.

SCHOOLS.

There are six schools in the area.

The County Education Authority is responsible for School Medical Inspection which is carried out three times a year. The measures taken in relation to the health of the scholars are detailed in the Annual Report of the County School Medical Officer, but as Medical Officer of Health it is within my province to report on the Sanitary conditions of the schools in the area.

The standard of cleanliness in the various schools in the district is satisfactory, and the personal cleanliness in the children themselves is commendable.

Each school has now a reasonable supply of wash-hand basins and towels.

Ventilation, heating, lighting, water supply and office accommodation are satisfactory.

It has not been considered necessary to close any of the schools on account of infectious disease during the year.

REPORT ON MILK SCHEME.

Head-teachers are asked to encourage all their pupils to take advantage of the scheme but actual certification is only made in respect of those children who fall into category " C " or " D." Such children are normally discovered at school medical inspections but three times a year, apart from such inspections, the Head-Teachers are requested to send to the Clinics any children of whom they are of the opinion that they are below normal, physically and nutritionally.

Each certified child is examined six times a year and weighed three times per year.

The school population of the area at the end of the year was approximately 2,885 and of this number about 60% paid for milk throughout the year and 4.8% had milk supplied free.

207 or 7% of the school population were of " C " category certification and 66 or 2.3% of " D " category certification.

The total number of children who had Free Milk was 140 or 4.8% of the school population.

Of the 207 " C " class children, 118 had Free milk, 30 of whom had Two bottles free.

Of the 66 " D " class children, 22 had Free milk, 12 of whom had Two bottles free.

Of the 273 certified children, 47 have been raised to category " B " (normal) at the end of the year and 26 have left school on account of age or removed from the district, leaving a balance of 200 certified children to be carried forward to 1939, of whom 97 will be having Free milk. (This number of course will be added to as further children are certified throughout the coming year).

The " carry forward " of Free milk cases for the year 1939 will be 97, i.e., 140 less 43 who have been removed from the list on account of :—

Attaining school leaving age	...	...	...	7
Being transferred to other districts		...	...	3
Improved nutrition	...	...	...	18
Improved home circumstances	...	...	...	15
				<hr/>
				43
				<hr/>

Remarks.

Apart from mere gain in weight, the great improvement in nutrition of the certified children is very marked, particularly amongst those children who take milk regularly.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Census (1931) Statistics regarding the area : -

Average number of rooms per dwelling	...	4.36
Average number of families per dwelling	...	1.04
Average number of persons per room	...	1.02
Average size of family	... ..	4.26
Percentage of population living more than two persons per room	... ..	12%

Progress during the year.

The number of new houses erected during the year was 306, of which 194 were built by private enterprise. The remaining 112 houses were erected under the Housing Act, 1930.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	315
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose		482
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	... ..	45
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose		45
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ..	47
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	151

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	54
---	--------	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	0
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :			
(a)	By Owners	...	...	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...		0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	78
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners	75
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0

C.—Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	47
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	21

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4.—Housing Act, 1936. Part IV.—Overcrowding :—

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	148
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...		180
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...		1033
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	26

(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	75
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases				459

The number of houses owned by the Council is 1292, made up of 800 built under 1919 Act, 232 under the 1924 Act, and 260 under the 1930 Act.

No byelaws in respect of houses-let-in-lodgings are necessary in this district, as no such houses exist.

The bye-laws in respect of tents, vans, sheds, etc., present no difficulty in their enforcement.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Particulars of inspections and details of work done will be found in your Inspector's Report.

(b) **Meat and Other Foods.**—Inspections have been carried out in the slaughter-houses, together with visits to retail shops. For further information see Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(c) **Adulteration, &c.**—The County Authority is responsible for all inspections and actions taken.

(d) **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Foods.**—The County is the responsible Authority.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

I am indebted to Mr. T. H. Jenkins, Inspector of South, Staffordshire, for the following report.

PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES TAKEN IN SEDGLEY U.D. DURING 1938.

Article.		Samples taken.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Milk	...	44	39	5
General Foods	...	10	10	—
Total	...	54	49	5

Three samples of milk were slightly deficient in fat, and two other samples contained a very small percentage of excess water, the vendors in each case being cautioned.

MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND ORDERS.

UNDESIGNATED SAMPLES.

Number submitted.	Cleanliness		Biological Results.	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Submitted.	Positive
45*	14	31	43	5

* In two samples no biological test carried out.

DESIGNATED MILKS.

	Cleanliness		Biological Results.	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Negative	Positive.
“ Tuberculin Tested ”	1	—	1	—
“ Accredited ” ...	2	—	2	—
“ Pasteurised ” ...	1	—	1	—
	4	—	4	—

The Pasteurised sample passed the phosphatase test for pasteurisation.

Also 1 “ Tuberculin Tested ” Pasteurised sample which was satisfactory from the cleanliness standpoint.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The prevalence of notifiable diseases during the year shows a considerable decrease on last year, the number of notifications being 80 as against 112 in 1937. This decrease is chiefly due to the diminution of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Pneumonia.

The number of Scarlet Fever cases notified were 11 as against 14 last year. Diphtheria cases were 12 as against 31, while the number of Pneumonia cases was 29 as against 41 for the previous year.

No Scarlet Fever cases were admitted to hospital during the year, home nursing being possible in all instances.

Of the 12 Diphtheria cases 7 were admitted to hospital and there was one death. The average number of days in hospital was 40 and the average cost per case, £20 15s. 6d.

In my opinion, the unsuspected "carrier" and close association in school or play, are chiefly responsible for the cases of Diphtheria, the housing conditions and source of Milk supply of the affected households being good in all cases.

Owing to the inability of Wolverhampton Borough Hospital to take all the cases, Brierley Hill Hospital was called upon and the Council's appreciation and thanks are herewith recorded.

Prompt use is made of diphtheria antitoxin by the local medical practitioners, supplies always being available on application to the Medical Officer of Health.

Pneumonia accounted for 36% of the total notifications, Erysipelas totalled 19 and there was one case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

As regards non-notifiable diseases, except in the case of Whooping Cough, there has been an extraordinary decrease in the number of such cases throughout the year, as far as school children are concerned.

The following figures show the decrease from the previous year.

			1937	1938
Chickenpox	...	...	120	7
Measles	...	...	146	1
Mumps	...	...	159	2

In the case of Whooping Cough there was an increase, the number of such being 60 as against 23 in the previous year.

Of course, as I said earlier in my opening remarks, these figures take no account of the incidence of these diseases among children of non-attending school age.

School intimations of infectious disease are carefully scrutinised and made use of for the purpose of guidance and localisation.

Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by means of disinfectant fluid and formaldehyde lamps.

All houses in which a death from Tuberculosis has occurred or from which a Tuberculous patient has been removed, are disinfected.

Terminal disinfection is also carried out in all cases of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Cancer and other cases of long standing disease.

Schools are disinfected when considered desirable. The opening wide of windows to ensure a free circulation of fresh air is also insisted upon during week-ends and holiday periods.

Summary of Immunisation against Diphtheria and Schick Testing, 1938.

(Children under eight years of age).

School.	Table I.			Table II.				Remarks.
	No. of Forms issued	% of "Consents"	Cases Immunised	Number Tested	Cases Schick Tested.		Refused or Absent	
					Negative	Postive		
Upper Gornal	102	52	53	45	40	5	8	T.A.M. used
Red Hall ...	117	72	84	80	77	3	4	No re-actions
Robert Street	35	51	18	18	17	1	—	93.7% Negative
R.C. ...	36	67	24	24	22	2	—	
Queen Victoria	61	71	43	40	38	2	3	
Sedgley Urban	351	63	222	207	194	13	15	
Pre-School Children ...	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	

No cases of Diphtheria have occurred amongst any children who had been immunised.

TABLE VIII.
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	Cases A'mitt'd to Hospit'l	DEATHS ARRANGED UNDER AGES.										Total Deaths	Death Rate		
			Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45		45-65	65 & over	England & Wales	Sedgley U.D.
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria ...	12	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	0.07	0.05
Poliomyelitis ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.00
Erysipelas ...	19	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.00
Pneumonia ...	29	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	4	17	—	0.83
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.00
Total ...	80	12	2	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	1	4	18	—	—

TABLE IX.
AGE-GROUPS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1938.

DISEASE.	At all Ages.		AT THE AGES SPECIFIED.—Years.																					
			0—1		1—2		2—3		3—4		4—5		5—10		10—15		15—25		25—45		45—65		65 and over.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	...	5	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	19	10	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	6	5	2	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	14	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	4	4	3	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	45	35	1	—	2	1	—	1	3	—	8	6	1	5	4	4	4	12	10	5	5	2	2

TABLE X.
QUARTERLY NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1938.

Quarter ending.	Diphth- eria.	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipel- as.	Pneu- monia.	Polia- myelitis	Ophthal- mia Neon- atorum	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Total
March 31st ...	2	4	8	14	—	—	1	29
June 30th ...	7	1	5	13	—	1	3	30
September 30th...	3	1	3	1	—	—	—	8
December 31st ...	—	5	3	1	2	—	2	13
Totals ...	12	11	19	29	2	1	6	80

TABLE XI.
PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was taken or required to be taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1925.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Notified.	Cases.		Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	Treated.					
	At home.	In hospital.				
1	1	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE XII.
TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 Year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1—5	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1
5—10	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1
10—15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15—20	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
20—25	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-
25—35	3	2	-	-	2	1	-	1
35—45	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
45—55	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55—65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	8	3	2	5	3	4	1	3

The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths is 1 to 11.
Notification of Tuberculosis is efficient.
No action was taken, or known to be required under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

TABLE XIII.

TUBERCULOSIS (PULMONARY).

Year.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate per 1000 population.
1933	26	14	0.72
1934	20	13	0.67
1935	26	23	1.15
1936	18	6	0.30
1937	13	6	0.30
1938	11	7	0.34

TUBERCULOSIS (NON-PULMONARY).

Year.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate per 1000 population.
1933	4	2	0.10
1934	6	3	0.15
1935	5	0	0.00
1936	3	1	0.05
1937	6	1	0.05
1938	7	4	0.20

TABLE XIV.

CANCER DEATHS.—AGE-GROUPS and PARTS AFFECTED.

Parts Affected.	1—15 years.		15—25 years.		25—35 years.		35—45 years.		45—65 years.		65 years and over		Totals.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Thyroid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Tongue, lip, mouth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Larynx	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Gullet ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colon	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	3
Rectum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	2
Lung	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Womb or Ovaries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
External Genitals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Liver, kidney, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cæcum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bladder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pancreas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peritoneum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	7	2	6	19

FACTORIES.**1.—INSPECTION.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

PREMISES. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power)	35	—	—
FACTORIES without mechanical power	37	—	—
† OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construc- tion but not including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
† Electrical Stations should reckoned as factories. <i>Total</i> ...	72	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS. (1)	Number of Defects			No. of Prose- cutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remed- ied (3)	Referred to H.M. Insp'tor (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1)	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Effective Drainage to Floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary { insufficient	2	2	—	—
Conveniences { unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—
(S. 7) { not separate for sexes...		—	—	—
Other offences				
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Minis- try of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).				
<i>Total</i>	8	8	—	—

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the Sedgley Urban District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1938 giving details of inspections made and improvements effected.

Summary of Inspections.

No. of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	315
Systematic house to house inspections	...	...	...	...	45
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	920
Visits re overcrowding	...	...	...	...	223
Inspections re drainage	...	...	...	...	94
Visits to slaughter houses	...	...	...	...	583
Inspections re slaughter on private premises	...	...	...	...	17
Factories inspected	...	...	...	...	72
Dairies and cowsheds inspected	...	...	...	...	93
Shops inspected	...	...	...	...	21
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	164

Notices.

Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	53
" " complied with	...	...	...	...	50
Informal notices served	...	...	...	...	118
" " complied with	...	...	...	...	91
Houses repaired without service of notice	...	...	...	...	54

Improvements.

Houses generally repaired	...	...	...	...	129
Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	75
Privies converted to W.C's.	19	}	...	...	33
Additional W.C's provided	14		...	...
Privies abolished	...	...	...	...	23
Ashpits —"	...	...	...	...	31
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	143
New sculleries or wash-houses provided	...	...	...	...	12
Water laid on to scullery or wash-house	...	...	...	...	35
New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	22
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	...	29

Housing Act, 1936.

During the year under review 47 houses have been placed under Demolition Order, and 462 persons were rehoused from 111 houses. The Council have now built 260 houses for slum clearance and rehoused 1124 persons.

Houses under Demolition Order.

83 and 85 Bath Street	2
52, 53, *61a, *62, 63, 65, 69, 70, 71 and *72 Gospel End St.	10
31, 32, 33 and 34 Gospel End	4
3 and 4 Beacon Court	2
3 Goldthorne Hill	1
24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, and 42 Moden Hill	8
*1 and 2 Sandyfields	2
7, *8, 9 and *10 Mill Bank	4
17 Monument Lane	1
12 The Bull Ring	1
37, 38 39, and 40 Jews Lane	4
22, 26, and 27 Ox Street... ..	3
21, 23, 25, 27 and 29 Spills Meadow	5
8, 9, 10, 11, 32, 33, 72, 73 and 113 Kent Street	9
*3, 5, 6 and 7 Eve Lane	4
7 Burton Road	1
*7 North Street	1
14 and 16 Lake Street	2
2, 6 and 37 Musk Lane	3
9, 23, 24 and 25 Hopyard Lane	4
7, 8, and 9 East Street	3
8 Furlong Walk	1
16, *19 and 20 Holloway Street	3
18 Prices Road	1
3, 5a, 5b, 6, 19 and 20 The Alley	6
3 Prospect Road	1
77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87 and 89 Ruiton Street	7
*14 Flavells Lane	1
2, 3, 4, and 5 Gordons Place	4
10 Straits Road	1
17, 18, 19, 37 and 38 Summer Lane	5

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*Ten of these houses are still occupied, the remainder are void and demolition has commenced in most cases.

Houses Demolished.

91 and 93 Bath Street	...	...	...	...	...	2
7, 8 and 9 Duke Street	...	...	...	...	...	3
43, 44 and 45 Hill Street	...	...	...	...	...	3
21 and 22 Holloway Street	...	...	...	...	...	2
19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 Stone Street	...	...	...	...	...	5
3 Burton Road	...	...	...	...	...	1
1 and 3 Spills Meadow	...	...	...	...	...	2
30 Coopers Bank	...	...	...	...	...	1
41 and 43 Ruiton Street	...	...	...	...	...	2
						—
						21
						—

Overcrowding.

All overcrowding and border line cases were revisited in December, 1938, and the following table gives an analysis of cases in the various Wards, and particulars of cases relieved.

Analysis of Overcrowding.

District.	Ward.	Cases Abated	Overcrowding due to Sub-letting	Overcrowded Houses to be Demolished	No. of families of :—										Overcrowding in Council Houses	Total
					2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
SEDGLEY	BEACON CENTRAL WEST COUNCIL HSES. TOTAL	7 — 4 3 14	— — — 2 2	— 1 — — 1	— — — — —	— — — 1 1	1 — — 1 2	— 1 1 — 2	1 1 1 1 4	— 1 1 1 3	— 1 1 — 6	— — 2 — 2	— — — 3 3	— — — 1 1	— — — 1 1	2 4 6 13 25
	St. PETERS COUNCIL HSES. TOTAL	9 12 21	3 8 11	— — —	1 1 2	1 1 2	1 1 3	2 5 11	6 11 12	1 10 12	2 13 13	— 5 8	3 2 2	— 2 2	1 — 1	19 51 70
	St. JAMES SOUTH WOOD COUNCIL HSES. TOTAL	6 13 13 8 40	1 4 3 11 19	— — — — —	— — — 2 2	— — — 5 5	2 3 4 3 12	1 2 4 — 7	1 2 1 — 4	— 1 2 2 5	— 2 1 3 6	— — 2 1 3	— — — 7 7	1 — — 1 2	— — — — —	5 10 14 24 53
	LOWER GORNAL															
	TOTAL	75	32	1	4	8	16	14	19	20	24	18	18	5	2	148

Privy Conversions.

Drainage and conversion work carried out since September, 1924, on completion of the Sewage Disposal Works at Sedgley, is as follows :—

Houses and premises provided with proper drainage	...	...	...	...	2579
Water Closets installed	...	...	...	...	2698
Privies abolished	...	...	...	...	2013
Asspits abolished	...	...	...	...	1584
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	227

Meat Inspection.

There are 8 licensed slaughterhouses in the district and during the year 583 inspections were made. In addition 17 visits were made to private premises, on notices of occasional slaughter, and 21 pigs were examined.

It is estimated that 4 tons 5 cwts. of meat was surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human consumption.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

The register contains 3 wholesale traders and producers, 19 producers and retailers and 52 retailers.

10 retailers have dairies which are situated outside the district.

One producer produces and retails "Tuberculin Tested" Milk.

One producer produces "Accredited" Milk.

Seven retailers retail "Tuberculin Tested" and/or "Accredited and/or "Pastuerised" Milk.

The licenses granted during the year under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, are as follows :—

"Tuberculin Tested" (Dealers License)	...	1
"Accredited"	...	3
"Tuberculin Tested" (Supplementary)	...	2
"Accredited"	...	2
"Pasteurised"	...	2
		—
		10
		—

During the year 93 inspections were made.

Report on the Removal and Disposal of House Refuse.

This work is carried out under the control of Mr. W. A. Pearson, Cleansing Superintendent, and he reports as follows :—

The work is carried out by direct labour. The staff consists of 15 men, two of them being regularly engaged on disposal work at the various tips.

The Council own two S.D. " Chelsea " Motor Freighters and in addition one horse and cart is used for the removal of house refuse. The horse, together with driver is provided by a contractor at a fixed rate.

During the year 2446 loads of refuse were removed by horse and cart from 3090 buildings at a cost of 3/10 per load. The cost for the previous year was 3/9 $\frac{3}{4}$ per load.

During the same period 2960 loads were removed by the freighters from 251,982 buildings. The number of ashbins emptied was 255,835, an average of 86 bins per load and a cost of 11/8 $\frac{1}{2}$ per load.

The nett cost of collection and removal for the year, £2202 2s. 11d., shows a cost per house of 8/- $\frac{1}{2}$ as against 7/6 for 1937. The cost per 1,000 of population is £108. 4s. 3d., as against £98 1s. 3d., in the previous year.

The cost of disposal shows an increase, the sum of £263. 11s. 1d., being expended as against £204. 4s. 4d., in 1937.

178 cesspools were emptied during the year. The contents are raised and discharged into an enclosed tank by the use of a Diaphragm Pump and disposed of in the Council's sewers.

During the year the use of Wolverhampton Road tip has been discontinued and practically the whole of the refuse is now disposed of on tips at Cinderhill and Hermit Street Quarry. All the refuse from Goldthorn Park Estate is now dealt with at Cinderhill tip which means considerably longer haulage. As residents on this Estate, which continues to expand, have no facilities for disposing of any part of their house refuse by burning or other means, such refuse, by reason of its combustible nature, gives considerable difficulty in disposal. Both tips are in suitable positions, well removed from dwellings, and are kept in good condition.

Year	Houses	Privies	Ashpits	Bins	Loads removed		Total
					Tanks	Refuse	
1938	255203	932	810	256796	1040	4366	5406
1937	244063	791	857	245703	839	4290	5129
1936	235685	759	879	237161	733	4334	5067
1935	226674	950	1069	228465	736	5560	6296
1934	199556	1219	1239	199321	849	7118	7967
1933	185680	1486	1566	184534	1144	7737	8881

Year.	No.of Houses.	Cost.			Per House.		Per 1000 Population.		
		£	s.	d.	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1938	5473	2202	2	11	8	0.5	108	4	3
1937	5279	1982	1	11	7	6	98	1	3
1936	5126	1783	13	6	6	11.5	89	3	6
1935	4960	1824	6	6	7	4.3	91	6	0
1934	4838	1820	6	7	7	6.3	98	8	11
1933	4424	1855	12	8	8	4.7	95	8	5

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. H. CHAMPION,

Sanitary Inspector.

